CLAIMS

1. A method for treating a fetus comprising administering mesenchymal stem cells to the fetus.

5

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the mesenchymal stem cells differentiate in vivo.

The method of Claim 1 wherein the mesenchymal stem cells are modified

10 with exogenous genetic material.

IN IN IN

E.

ta k

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein said fetus is non-human.

15

The method of Claim 4 wherein said mesenchymal stem cells are human.

6. A method of engrafting mesenchymal stem cells, comprising: administering mesenchymal stem cells to a fetus in utero.

 $20 \begin{array}{c} (7) \\ (8) \end{array}$

3.

The method of Claim 6 wherein said fetus is non-human.

The method of Claim 7 wherein said mesenchymal stem cells are human.

9. A method of preparing an organ for transplantation, comprising:

25

- (a) administering mesenchymal stem cells to a non-human fetus in utero; and
- (b) harvesting said organ.
- 30 10. The method of Claim 9 wherein said non-human fetus is ovine.
 - 11. The method of Claim 9 wherein said mesenchymal stem cells are human.
- 12. The method of Claim 9 wherein said organ is harvested after the birth of said fetus.
 - 13. A method of xenotransplantation comprising: transplanting the organ of Claim 12 into a human patient.
- 40 14. The method of Claim 13 wherein said organ is a heart.
 - 15. The method of Claim 13 wherein said organ is a pancreas.
 - 16. The method of Claim 13 wherein said organ is a kidney.

45